

A NEW PAUSSID BEETLE FROM CENTRAL AMERICA

BY P. J. DARLINGTON, JR.

Museum of Comparative Zoölogy, Cambridge, Mass.

The following new species not only adds another to the few known New World forms of the interesting family Paussidæ (cf. Kolbe, *Entomologische Mitteilungen*, Vol. 9, 1920, pp. 131-141; 145-156), but is the first record of the family from Central America.

Homopterus hondurensis n. sp. (Fig. 1)

Relatively slender (in genus); castaneous, moderately shining, appendages also castaneous; head posteriorly, pronotum, and elytra moderately closely but not densely punctate with punctures of moderate size, head anteriorly more sparsely and irregularly punctate. *Head* by measurement about 9/10 width prothorax; eyes very prominent; occiput not swollen; front concave; antennæ considerably longer than head and prothorax, formed as shown in figure, with outer anterior edges of segments 3 to 9 slightly overlapping following joints (when antenna is straight), flattened joints closely and finely punctate at sides but much more sparsely so at middle; palpi normal for Homopterus. *Prothorax* formed as shown in figure; convex but not swollen dorsally; disk somewhat impressed near base at middle and on each side; median line fine, lightly impressed; margins narrow, slightly broader before basal angles. *Elytra* probably subparallel and about 1/3 wider than prothorax (somewhat warped from preservation in alcohol), unusually elongate for genus, with usual rather inconspicuous tubercle on outer side before apex. Femora and tibiæ flattened, moderately broad (in genus), formed as shown in figure; tarsi shorter than width of tibiæ at apex, retracted into excavated tibial apices. Pygidium closely punctate; abdomen much more finely and sparsely so. Length $7\frac{3}{4}$ mm.

Type a unique (M. C. Z. no. 22,502) from Lancetilla, Honduras, collected by Dr. Marston Bates.

Lack of an occipital swelling apparently distinguishes this from the three previously described species of *Homopterus*. Otherwise the relatively narrow form and elongate antennæ ally the new species to *brasiliensis* Westw. and *bolivianus* Kolbe, although it differs from both in having a more nearly quadrate (less cordate) prothorax with more weakly arcuate sides. *Hondurensis* differs further from *brasiliensis* (but resembles *bolivianus*) in the overlapping of the edges of the antennal segments. I do not know either *brasiliensis* or

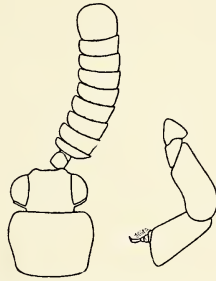


Fig. 1. *Homopterus hondurensis* n. sp. (type): outlines of prothorax, head, and right antenna, and of left middle leg from in front; from camera-lucida drawings.

bolivianus except from the literature, but the former has been figured in detail several times, and the latter is carefully compared with it by Kolbe. I have, however, seen a specimen of *Homopterus steinbachi* Kolbe, from Colombia. A sketch of the important segments of one antenna of this specimen has been compared with the type of *steinbachi*, and pronounced the same, through the kindness of Prof. Kolbe and the good offices of Dr. Walther Horn.